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METEOROLOGICAL RECORD.

Yesterday's Record at the Local Of-  
fice of the Weather Bureau.  
Salt Lake City, Utah, March 22, 1899.  
Maximum temperature, 45 degrees; min-  
imum temperature, 29 degrees; mean tem-  
perature, 37 degrees, which is 7 degrees  
below the normal; accumulated excess of  
temperature since last of the month, 2.00  
degrees; accumulated excess of temperature  
since Jan. 1, 94 degrees; total precipitation  
for the month, .48 inch; accumulated  
excess of precipitation since Jan. 1, .13  
inches.  
The following is the local forecast of the  
weather for today: Rain or snow; sta-  
tionary temperature.

L. H. MURDOCH,  
Section Director, Weather Bureau.

MINORITY MISTAKES.

Perry Belmont was once a Democrat.  
He still believes in many Democratic  
principles. But his conduct after the  
Chicago convention demonstrated that  
his Democracy was only skin deep. Not  
merely because he refused to endorse a  
bimetallist platform, but when free coin-  
age was made the paramount issue of  
the campaign and a presidential ticket  
was nominated by that convention, Mr.  
Belmont and his fellow clubmen re-  
fused to recognize the rights and de-  
legated powers of an unquestioned ma-  
jority.

So the Belmont minority opposed the  
majority and fought it until the last  
ballot was cast in November, 1896. The  
bolters based their opposition on the  
assertion that the minority in that con-  
vention represented the majority of the  
masses, and they had the egotism and  
effrontery to claim that they, the mem-  
bers of a small minority, knew the peo-  
ple better than a majority of chosen  
representatives knew them. Election  
day proved their error.

Bryan received 5,513,972 of the popular  
vote, while the candidate of the minor-  
ity faction, Palmer, received but 122,  
880.

Minorities which claim to know more  
about the wishes of the people than  
majorities do, generally receive just  
such a shock.

ECONOMY AND PRATT.

How is this? Arthur Pratt was the  
choice of a non-partisan municipal ad-  
ministration for chief of the Salt Lake  
police department.

Was he chosen in the interest of econ-  
omy? Look at the court dockets and  
see the endless and expensive litigation  
which has grown out of his maladminis-  
tration of police affairs. Is there any  
economy in that?

Was he selected as the proper repre-  
sentative of an organization whose  
watchword was "retrenchment"?  
Go to the city records for an answer.  
They show that the salary of the chief  
of police has been reduced from \$1,800  
to \$1,500 per annum, and that Chief  
Pratt continues to draw the larger sum,  
regardless of the salary ordinance.

Is this retrenchment? Is this Pratt's  
interest in the non-partisan administra-  
tion?

How can business men like Mayor  
Clark, Councilmen Romney, Patrick  
and Wallace countenance such repudia-  
tion of their pledges, platform, ordi-  
nances and unquestioned wishes?

AFTER HIS OWN RECORD.

Geddes has fastened his pedometer on  
the wheels of progress again, and is  
back in his old business of walking for  
wages.

The public may grow faint and weary  
and the way to them seem long and  
tortuous, but there is no rest for Ged-  
des.

Like the Wandering Jew he wanders  
on and on, and he will continue to  
perambulate while mileage is paid.

His record as a county commissioner  
has never been broken; he has gone  
against time; he has walked with the  
wind, and now he is paced by water.

As an expert on water running up  
hill Archie B. Geddes has rendered in-  
valuable aid to the city engineer. He  
has likewise asked for his mileage.

WELLS AND THE SALT PALACE.

While Governor Wells is technically  
right in vetoing the Salt Palace item  
in the general appropriation bill, he is  
mistaken in the assumption that the  
purpose of the constitution was to pre-  
vent the state from advertising its re-  
sources in any manner calculated to  
bring about a public and general ben-  
efit.

The constitutional provision cited by  
the governor was designed to prevent  
subsidies being granted by state legis-  
lature to private enterprises estab-  
lished and maintained as business in-  
stitutions.

To assume that the Salt Palace  
project comes under this head is an in-  
justice to the public-spirited citizens  
who encouraged and supported it. They  
never expected to make a cent out of  
it. Some of them hoped to get a por-  
tion of their money back, but no one  
looked for profit.

If the governor knows the men, if he  
senses the undertaking, if he realizes  
the difficulties in the way of such an  
exposition, he knows that he does the  
men behind the Salt Palace movement  
an injustice when he says it is "clear  
that the association in charge thereof  
expects to derive a profit therefrom—  
an enterprise for private gain and of a  
private character."

The state has a right to donate pub-  
lic moneys to be expended on expositions  
at Omaha or at Nashville, and these  
might as well be private enter-  
prises so far as the state of Utah is

concerned. It has never yet been de-  
nied the right to advertise its resources  
and attractions, even though business  
with private corporations might be the  
only way to print and distribute matter  
for such a purpose.

And yet, after all is said and done, it  
is a matter of some surprise and disap-  
pointment that the gentlemen connect-  
ed with the mooted Salt Palace and  
not pay more attention to the bill and make  
some attempt to remove, either from  
the bill or from the character of their  
association, every excuse upon which  
his excellency could base a technical  
objection.

THAT EIGHT-HOUR VETO.

In his veto of the eight-hour law the  
governor presumes to speak for the  
laboring man. He might well oppose  
the measure from another standpoint,  
but when he speaks for labor he should  
not forget that every labor organization  
in the land has endorsed the eight-hour  
proposition.

But there should have been no neces-  
sity for the governor to misstate the  
provisions of the bill as a basis for his  
veto.

Governor Wells says: "The evident  
purpose of the act is to make it a crim-  
inal offense for any person in the em-  
ployment of the state, county or any  
municipal subdivision thereof, to work  
longer than eight hours in any one cal-  
endar day. Another purpose of the act  
is to prohibit the laboring man from  
working more than eight hours in the  
same day, even though he desires and  
his necessities require him to do so."

According to the governor's state-  
ment of the substance of the measure in  
his veto these conclusions are not  
strictly correct. He says:

"The bill provides that in all con-  
tracts in which the state or county or  
municipal subdivision thereof is a party  
it shall be stipulated that no laborer  
workman or mechanic in the employ of  
the contractor or sub-contractor, shall  
be required or permitted to work more  
than eight hours in one calendar day,  
except in extraordinary emergency, and  
that such contract shall stipulate a  
penalty of \$10 for each violation of  
the stipulation therein contained."

There is considerable difference be-  
tween men working for contractors on  
state, county and municipal undertak-  
ings and those who are employed by the  
state and the subdivisions thereof di-  
rectly. If the bill referred solely to the  
latter the veto itself is a contradiction  
of the constitution; if it is designed as  
a protection to the former only, there  
is still some question as to whether  
the reasons assigned for the veto are  
good and sufficient.

As to the constitutionality of provid-  
ing a penalty for the enforcement of a  
mandate of the constitution itself, the  
governor's point does not seem clear at  
first blush.

Since section 6 of article 16 of the  
state constitution provides that "eight  
hours shall constitute a day's work on  
all works or undertakings carried on  
or aided by the state, county or munici-  
pal governments," it is not easy to com-  
prehend the governor's meaning when  
he says:

"It seems to me, to provide that a  
man shall not labor more than eight  
hours in each calendar day, notwith-  
standing his own necessities or the ne-  
cessities of those dependent upon him  
might render it absolutely necessary  
for him to do so, would be an interfer-  
ence with the natural rights that every  
man has, to labor for the support of  
himself and family, or for the purpose  
of acquiring, possessing and protecting  
property."

His excellency's argument appears to  
be directed against the state constitu-  
tion, although he holds that an eight-  
hour law is of itself unconstitutional.

The veto might have passed without  
comment if Governor Wells had not as-  
signed the particular reasons above  
quoted.

PLUNGING INTO DEBT.

We are still paying war taxes. An  
enormous internal revenue is draining  
the country. The highest protective  
tariff this country has ever endured is  
in operation. Government bonds to the  
amount of \$200,000,000 have been sold.

From many sources and through all  
these channels there has been a con-  
stant stream flowing into the national  
treasury.

At the beginning of the present ad-  
ministration McKinley found \$200,000,000  
in the treasury, the proceeds of Cleve-  
land's bond sales. Another bond issue  
by McKinley turned an additional \$200,-  
000,000 into the same golden reservoir.

The tariff was raised to the highest  
notch. War taxes have been levied un-  
til nothing is exempt but the air we  
breathe and the water we drink. Every  
check, note, telegram, money order and  
document used in legal or other busi-  
ness transaction requires a stamp, and  
compels a contribution.

From a statement just issued by the  
treasury department it appears that the  
total receipts from internal revenues  
for the first eight months of the fiscal  
year amount to \$178,783,884, almost three  
times as much as they were in the cor-  
responding period of last year.

Last month the internal revenue col-  
lections reached \$19,648,996, as against  
\$16,624,445 in February, 1898.

Wars may come and wars may go,  
but the tax goes on forever. It would  
seem that the treasury, already well  
filled with gold at the beginning of  
the McKinley administration, might be  
in serious danger of overflowing. Trust  
a Republican administration to prevent  
that.

During the last congress there was  
an outlay of more than half as much  
again as the "Billion Dollar Congress"  
expended. In all, \$1,600,000,000 was al-  
lowed, appropriated and authorized.

Not only have all the revenues from  
all sources been disposed of by this ad-  
ministration, but the surplus found in  
the treasury at the beginning and the  
proceeds of the bond sale—they are all  
gone already, and a deficiency of little  
less than \$200,000,000 stares the country  
in the face.

Republican financiers advise another  
bond issue. Although the tariff has  
reached its climax and the war taxes  
are to be continued, the only way to  
keep pace with the Hanna-McKinley  
administration is to increase the bond-  
ed indebtedness and keep up the pres-  
ent out of extravagance until the peo-  
ple demand a change.

It does seem that they ought to get  
enough of it in another two years.

New Jersey has added to her choice  
collection of assorted trusts one which  
threatens every epicure in the land.  
It is an oyster trust. The attorney gen-  
eral should open a case without delay,

MARK TWAIN'S LATEST JOKE!  
(Chicago Times-Herald.)

When the serial humorist first ap-  
peared on the lecture platform many  
people found him peculiar. It was not  
that he said "an undignified thing in  
such a solemn way," but that he said  
everything so solemnly that many failed  
to discover when he was witty and  
when he was taken literally. The im-  
mense face, the drawing accent, the  
shuffling walk, absorbed attention to  
advantage of the delicate satire, pun-  
gent dryness of phrase, and the al-  
ways wholesome ridicule. These con-  
tradictions of essence and style are re-  
flected in his writings. There are still  
people who see more fun in "Innocence  
Abroad" than the custodian whom  
Mark asked if Christopher Columbus  
were dead. That Mark is most popular  
having long since given up the im-  
perfectly understood by only those who  
travel quickest between the lines. There  
are good American souls who, having  
read a current contribution by the sa-  
tirical humorist, have been ready to be-  
lieve that he is in favor of permitting  
our representatives abroad to wear the  
court dress of the government to which  
they are individually accredited.

This interpretation of his latest joke  
must fill the soul of Mark.  
His argument is in favor of permit-  
ting American democrats to submit to  
the atery and nappy of monarchies  
was "In Rome you must do as the  
Romans do." China was the most con-  
sistent in enforcing this motto of ar-  
tistic etiquette. Even after foreigners  
were allowed within the precincts of  
the imperial palace, preliminary to  
admission, entering the Prohibited  
city, they were compelled to prostrate them-  
selves on the ground thirty times and  
each time knock their heads against  
the ground nine times. This was per-  
forming the "salute of the emperor," and  
they were not permitted to have direct  
communication with the Son of Heav-  
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with the great powers were re-  
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